



City of Annapolis

Department of Neighborhood & Environmental Programs
160 Duke of Gloucester Street
Annapolis, MD 21401-2517

DNEP@annapolis.gov • 410-263-7946 • Fax 410-263-9158 • TDD use MD Relay or 711 • www.annapolis.gov

Annapolis Environmental Commission

March 16, 2011

The Regular Meeting of the Environmental Commission of the City of Annapolis was held on March 16, 2011 at the Hard Bean Café. Chair Pogell called the meeting to order at 7:30p.m.

Present: **Chair Pogell, Co-Vice Chair DeLuca, Co-Vice Chair Kamenoff, Weber**

Absent: Rinaldi, Rachfal, Butler, Haas

Staff: R. Savidge

II. February 16, 2011 Meeting Minutes

The voting on the February 16, 2011 meeting minutes was deferred to be voted on via email.

III. Regular Business Before the Commission

Outreach

a. AEC Newsletter

Ms. Kamenoff and Ms. Raftovich met to finalize the guidelines and policy for the AEC newsletter that was distributed to members for review. She went over the changes made to standardize the website for all the Boards and Commissions, however, the AEC webpage will include a link for its newsletters. She will continue to send out the newsletters monthly and asked that if members had any items that they would like to include in the newsletter to send the link to her. She concluded by noting that 30% of the 503 people opened the latest newsletter and the recycling resources pamphlet received the most traffic.

b. Maryland Wind Energy ACT Resolution/Letter

Following the AEC's Resolution in support of the Act proposed by Mr. Weber, the Mayor agreed to write a letter of support for which Mr. Weber and Ms. Pogell gathered the background, research and facilitated the delivery of the letter to the House Committee and the Senate Finance Committee. The bill has been heard by the House on March 3, 2011 but has not been voted on due to the outstanding issues. Mr. Keith Harrington has agreed to keep Ms. Pogell abreast on the status.

c. Rain Barrel/Compost Bin Sale

The rain barrel event is scheduled for March 26, 2011 and additional flyers have been provided for distribution. This year, in addition to the sale, the AEC has offered to conduct rain barrel installation demos, answer questions and hand out step by step instructions. Ms. Kamenoff and Ms. Rinaldi will be manning a table that will include stewardship forms, recycling resources, forms to sign up for the newsletter, commercial recycling information from Cindy Tail (Public Works) and Spa Creek's How-To guides to control storm water. Mr. Savidge noted that additional volunteers are needed. In response, Ms. Pogell said that former AEC Chair, now AA County Councilman Chris Trumbauer and volunteers from the AA County School system's Environmental Center at Arlington Echo, the Eastport Civic Association's Environmental Task Force, AA County's Master Watershed Stewards Academy will assist with the sale as well as with the demos.

III. Action Items

a. Eco-Center

Ms. Pogell explained that there will be a Resolution introduced on the March 28, 2011 by an Alderperson regarding the Eco Center in the Market House. She noted that Public Works has been charged with designing a capital improvement project to beautify, green and make better use of the space surrounding the Market House. She also met with the new Historic Preservation Officer, Lisa Craig regarding the possible acceptance of storm water planters underneath the eaves. Ms. Pogell explained that the Mayor and Council are anticipating funding in the budget for priority storm water control enhancements.

b. Grant Writing

This agenda item was deferred to the April 20, 2011 meeting.

c. Recycling Education Campaign

Ms. Kamenoff and Ms. Rinaldi have put together some resources of places to recycle items. Ms. Kamenoff discussed the Earth 911 website where the recyclable material and zip code can be entered and it will identify what facility will accept this type of material. She concluded that this will be a growing document that will include the item and resource.

d. Stormwater Eastport Watershed Alliance

Mr. Weber, Chair Pogell and Ms. Butler attended the inaugural meeting of the Eastport Watershed Alliance. The purpose of the organization is to reduce stormwater runoff and improve the water quality for the storm water flowing into Back Creek and Spa Creek from particularly concentrating on street end parks. AEC is one of many partners and Mr. Wilkins has asked AEC to prepare an environmental mission statement as part of a grant application. Mr. Wilkins would also like the AEC to note the green initiatives that they have been participated in. He has also requested funding; volunteer help and a letter of support. Mr. Weber provided a copy of a draft letter of support for approval prepared. The AEC needs to consider what its role will be in the Alliance. Mr. Wilkins suggested coordination, sharing information and participating with other groups. One of the purposes of the EWA is to act as a pilot for application elsewhere.

Chair Pogell asked that each member review the Annual Report.

IV. DNEP

Mr. Savidge distributed copies of the flyer for the Arbor Day project and the St. Mary's tree planting seminar. He updated the Commission on the Recreation and Parks recycling efforts explaining that it is on temporary hold until the new Public Works Director has review the materials. He was contacted by the Heritage Community who expressed interest in stream clean up if the Board is interested in getting involved in a project. He met with Habitat for Humanities regarding rain barrels and will work with placing some rain barrels in the Clay Street community and will solicit ideas on how to accomplish this. He is working with Recreation and Parks regarding the erosion in the park.

a. Katherine Property – March 19, 2011 Site Visit

Ms. DeLuca read a letter from Mr. Jim Urban to Mr. Tom Smith regarding the Katherine property. Mr. Savidge explained the site visit is scheduled for March 19, 2011 at 2:30pm and identified the meeting location on a site plan. The Commission reviewed and discussed the aerial photographs of the Katherine property.

The remaining agenda items were deferred to the April 20, 2011 meeting.

V. OLD BUSINESS

- a. **Windpower Proposal**

V. NEW BUSINESS

- a. **Reports on HPC, Planning Commission, Port Wardens**
- b. **Clean Stream Project**
- c. **Unity Gardens Grant for Pet Waste Stations**

Adjournment

The next meeting is scheduled for April 20, 2011 at 145 Gorman Street, Third Floor Conference Room.
With there being no further business, Ms. Kamenoff moved to adjourn the meeting at 9:00pm.
Mr. Weber seconded the motion. The motion passed unanimously in a vote 5-0.

Tami Hook, Recorder